



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

15 SEPTEMBER 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Berkeley – UC Berkeley Boosts Security Amid Fears of Political Violence

(U) The University of California, Berkeley, has ramped up security ahead of an appearance by a conservative commentator, the latest polarizing figure to raise concerns of violence. Authorities plan to seal off the campus' central hub, Sproul Plaza, and create a perimeter around several buildings, including where Ben Shapiro, a former editor of Breitbart News, was set to speak to a sold-out, 1,000-person audience. And for the first time in two decades, officers have been authorized to use pepper spray to control violence after the City Council modified a 1997 ban at an emergency meeting this week. City of Berkeley Police Chief Andrew Greenwood said officers would make "very strong, rapid arrests" of protesters wielding weapons and wearing masks.

SOURCE: 14 September 2017, [CBS Sacramento](#)

(U) Mountain View – Google Removes Infected Android Apps After Millions Download Malware

(U) Millions of Android users may have malware on their phones costing them extra money after they unwittingly downloaded infected apps from the Google Play Store. At least 50 apps in the store contained malware, according to researchers at security company the Check Point. The apps have now been removed, but the malware was downloaded between 1 million and 4.2 million times before Google removed the apps. The malware "ExpensiveWall" came hidden in free wallpaper, video and photo editing apps. Once people downloaded the apps, the virus would register them for paid services without their knowledge or send text messages that users would have to pay for.

SOURCE: 14 September 2017, [Time](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Citizen Fighting For ISIS Captured In Syria

(U) Washington – The US military has detained a US citizen who had been fighting with ISIS in Syria. Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) turned over to US forces an American citizen who surrendered to the SDF. The US citizen is being legally detained by Department of Defense personnel as a known enemy combatant. This isn't the first US citizen fighting for ISIS to be detained by US allies in the region. In March 2016, a US citizen was captured in Iraq by US-backed Kurdish Peshmerga forces.

SOURCE: 14 September 2017, [CNN](#)

(U) New York – NYPD Monitoring London Explosion but Says No Direct Threats to City

(U) New York City – The New York Police Department (NYPD) says it is closely monitoring the detonation of a homemade bomb on a subway train in London. There are no direct threats to New York City, a police commissioner said, but the department asks people to remain vigilant and be aware of surroundings. The NYPD says it has moved additional police officers, bomb detection canines, and heavy weapons teams to the city transit system until it learns more about the events in London. Police said the explosion in London was a terrorist attack, the fifth in Britain this year.

SOURCE: 15 September 2017, [ABC 7](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) South Korea – North Korea Test Fires Missile

(U) Seoul – North Korea fired an intermediate-range missile over Japan into the northern Pacific Ocean, US and South Korean militaries said, its longest-ever such flight. Since August 2017 Pyongyang has conducted its most powerful nuclear test and launched two missiles of increasing range over Japan. It tested its first-ever intercontinental ballistic missiles in July 2017. The growing frequency, power and confidence displayed by these tests seems to confirm what governments and outside experts have long feared: North Korea is closer than ever to its goal of building a military arsenal that can viably target both US troops in Asia and the US homeland.

SOURCE: 14 September 2017, [Time](#)

(U) United Arab Emirates – Banks Join Forces in Gulf to Fight Cyber Security Threat

(U) Dubai – Local and international banks in the United Arab Emirates are sharing information to reduce cyber-attacks. Gulf banks have invested millions of dollars in boosting cyber security systems to ward off attempted attacks, which bankers say happen on an almost daily basis. The most high-profile breach came last year against Qatar National Bank, the largest lender in the region, when criminals posted the names and passwords of customers online. Yesterday, the UAE Banks Federation said it was pairing with US-based Anomali to create the Information Sharing and Analysis Center, which it said was the first such initiative in the Middle East. This will bring together cyber security data from 13 banks to aggregate, correlate and analyze the level of threat.

SOURCE: 14 September 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Device Detonates on Subway

(U) London – A device that triggered a rush-hour fire aboard a subway train in the British capital was being investigated as terrorism today, police said. Authorities confirmed 22 people had been injured at Parsons Green Tube station in southwest London. None of their wounds — mostly superficial burns — were considered serious or life-threatening. Investigators were examining the remains of an improvised explosive device. Police said no arrests had been made but would not comment on the manhunt for the culprit.

SOURCE: 15 September 2017, [NBC News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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